

On March 23, 2015 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:33 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf

Region III: Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager:

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Member was absent: **Joseph P. Ciresi**

Board President, Mr. Dehnert, opened the meeting with the call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board met in an executive session prior to the meeting regarding personnel.

Dana announced that Spring-Ford students, staff and families are encouraged to dine at Margaritas Mexican Restaurant this Wednesday and Thursday, as the restaurant will donate 15% of their proceeds to the Spring-Ford High School Home and School Association. She advised the public that they can visit the school district's Facebook page to download a voucher, which must be presented in order for Spring-Ford to receive the donation. Dana next announced that this week the event of the year will take place with SNAP's Dancing With The Stars. She invited everyone to come out on Saturday, March 28th for a night of fun and entertainment. Tickets are available at www.SFsnap.org.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum/Technology **Dawn Heine**
No report.

1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Community Relations Todd Wolf 3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Wolf reported that the Community Relations Committee met on March 16, 2015 and discussed Spring-Ford's entries for the PenSPRA Education Communications Contest. The winners will be announced March 18th. Mr. Wolf reported that the committee also discussed holding an academic scholarship signing media day concept. Mr. Wolf stated that the idea behind this is because we hold media day events for athletic scholarships so why not academic scholarships. The committee also talked about community surveys and senior surveys. Erin Crew, School and Community Engagement Consultant, updated the committee on press releases, media coverage and upcoming projects such as a human resource recruitment brochure, the community survey taking place in March and April, the welcome package for new Spring-Ford families, and social media updates; Twitter, Facebook likes and hits. Steve Bonetz provided the committee with an update on RCTV Programming, spotlight videos, technology tip videos, television shows, monthly board meetings, special programs, special tapings, classroom lessons for teachers, and sporting events. The committee also discussed the possibility of purchasing and using drones for recording events from a bird's eye view. Mr. Wolf reported that they will also need to follow up on an issue that needs to be addressed with regards to RCTV having van problems.

MCIU Tom DiBello 4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

No report as the meeting occurs this week.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin stated that he is pleased to announce that the district has received two awards of excellence from the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association. Dr. Goodin commented that PennSPRA is an organization of School Public Relations Professionals whose goal is to improve educational communications. PennSPRA sponsors an educational communications contest which showcases a number of categories which reflect the scope of work of communication professionals. Dr. Goodin congratulated Steve Bonetz, TV Programming Specialist, on receiving an Award of Excellence for the Arboretum Spotlight Video. Dr. Goodin next congratulated Erin Crew, School & Community Engagement Consultant, on receiving an Award of Excellence for her "Meet Our Staff" Facebook feature. Dr. Goodin stated that he is very proud of our district's increased communication efforts and even more proud that we have been recognized for this work. Dr. Goodin encouraged all of the community to come out and attend the Saturday night's Dancing with the Stars Event which supports SNAP's post prom event. Dr. Goodin reported that prom night is statistically the most dangerous night of the year for high school students. Dr. Goodin commented that even though parents may not have a student in high school attending the prom, the entire community's support is needed to keep our students safe and free from alcohol related tragedy. Dr. Goodin pointed out that tonight was Dr. Mason's last school board meeting as she is retiring. He offered his congratulations and stated that the district will miss her. Dr. Goodin reminded the public that the Blue and Gold Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 10th at the Spring-Ford Country Club. Dr. Goodin advised anyone interested that they can obtain more information by contacting the district office.

Mr. Dehnert advised Dr. Mason that she is free to come to any Board meeting after she retires.

Solicitor's Report Mark Fitzgerald

No report.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. The Board approved the February 17, 2015 Work Session minutes. (**Attachment A1**)

New Approval of Minutes

B. The Board approved the February 23, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. (**Attachment A2**)

IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Cromley asked that Item F1 be separated and Mr. Dehnert asked that Item A6 be separated.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-G with the exception of A6 and F1. Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Corey L. Fuzi**, Asst. Lacrosse Coach-Girls, Senior High School. Effective: February 9, 2015.
2. **Barbara A. Grubb**, Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: June 17, 2015.
3. **Susan M. Pronchik**, Guidance Counselor, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Change in effective date from June 17, 2015 to September 16, 2015.
4. **Melissa R. Walton**, Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary. Effective: March 18, 2015.
5. **Rose M. Ward**, Lacrosse Coach - Girls, 7th Grade Center. Effective: March 2, 2015.

New Resignation

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A6 and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

6. **Timothy C. Anspach**, Business Manager, District Office; for the purpose of retirement consistent with the terms of the retirement agreement. Effective: June 30, 2015.

B. Leave of Absence

1. **Nicole K. Tenthoff**, Social Studies Teacher, Senior High School-9th Grade Center; for an extension of child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: For the full 2015-2016 school year.

C. Temporary Professional Staff Employee

1. **Lindsay Yerkes**, Special Education-Learning Support Teacher, Spring City Elementary School; replacing Jean F. Bertucci who retired. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, \$45,700.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: March 18, 2015.

D. Support Staff Employees

1. **Jennifer Reid**, Part-time (3 hour/day) Food Service, Senior High School-9th Grade Center; replacing Kristin Collis who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$12.91/hour per the Food Service Plan. Effective: February 25, 2015.
2. **Mary C. Cassidy**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School; replacing Ellen T. Grecco who retired. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistant Plan. Effective: March 17, 2015.

- E. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A3)**

New Personnel Motions

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Item F1 and Mr. Wolf seconded it.

Mr. Cromley commented that he is not in favor of employing this individual. He stated that there are only 2 ½ months left and he believes we could contract through the IU to provide this service until the end of the year. Mr. Cromley added that the district would have the opportunity, at that point and time, based on the new hires whether it would be feasible to roll this position into a full-time position. Mr. Cromley stated that he is not in favor of the Masters, Step 9 as he feels this is an area where we are paying a little bit too much for what we are getting.

Mr. DiBello asked if it appears that the district will be hiring additional teachers to meet the mandate that this falls within and Dr. Goodin replied no. Mr. DiBello asked if there were any special education teachers planned and Dr. Goodin stated no. Dr. Roche clarified not at that grade level.

Mr. Pettit stated that with special education teachers there is a special need for qualified people as this is a very important area and he believes they should be brought in at a Masters, Step 9.

Mr. Cromley commented that this individual has not taught in 15 years and only recently has been doing some long-term subbing.

Mr. Jackson questioned Mr. Cromley's comment that the person has not taught in 15 years and he questioned if she had taught at any level.

Mrs. Leiss reported that the individual was a previous employee of the school district, took some time off, re-entered the profession and has just finished up some long-term substitute work.

Mr. Fitzgerald clarified that there is a state requirement to recognize years of service even if it was a number of years ago.

Mr. Pettit asked Mrs. Leiss if there were any questions regarding this individual's qualifications and Mrs. Leiss replied no.

Mr. Jackson asked what that meant and if there was no one else who had taught and met the qualifications. Mrs. Leiss reminded the Board that this is a half-time special education position and that there is difficulty in finding someone for this position as it is not a true AM or PM position but rather one that is smack in the middle of the day. Mrs. Leiss further explained the change in PDE certification requirements and stated that finding someone with the correct certification who is willing to teach part-time is proving to be very challenging. Mrs. Leiss pointed out that this individual is also Wilson-certified trained which is beneficial to the district.

Mr. DiBello asked if this individual due to her experience is already considered tenured and the reply was yes. Mr. DiBello asked if there was any potential in this position being turned into a full-time position and Mrs. Leiss replied that she spoke to Mrs. Nuneviller and Mrs. Raber about this and they assured her that looking out at least 3 years that this would remain a part-time position.

The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Cromley voting no.

F. Professional Employees

1. **Mary K. Burkholder**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Katherine Helm who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 9, \$29,450.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: TBD.
2. **Michael A. DeCaro**, Assistant Principal-10 month (Grades 5-8), replacing Robin C. Moyer, Jr. who had a change of status. Compensation has been set at \$92,000.00 prorated with benefits per the Administrators' Plan. Effective: TBD.

G. Change of Status

1. **Edward M. Koneski**, Lead Grounds to Maintenance III, replacing Russell W. Boyer who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$27.13/hour with benefits per the Maintenance Plan. Effective: April 1, 2015.

V. FINANCE

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-I and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

- A. The Board approved next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work SessionFebruary

Check No. 156538 – 156608	\$ 374,104.80
ACH 141500409 – 141500416	\$ 622.53

March

Check No. 156609 – 156708	\$ 601,325.77
ACH 141500417 – 141500432	\$ 2,391.63

2. Athletic FundFebruary

Check No. 307820 – 307861	\$ 8,726.76
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3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting*March

*Check No. 156709 – 156753	\$ 204,688.84
*ACH 141500433 – 141500439	\$ 2,128.95

4. *Board Checks held for approval*March

*Check No. 156754 – 156780	\$ 28,214.74
*ACH 141500440 – 141500469	\$ 8,114.52

C. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Matt Phelan – Ardmore, PA.** Provide two assemblies, a writing workshop and book signing for students at Brooke Elementary School in conjunction with Author Day. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$1,500.00.
2. **Stars on the Move, Inc. – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide six Astronomy Shows per day using a portable planetarium for two days for students at Brooke Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$1,000.00.

D. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Programs for 6 special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 25 days at a rate of \$7,545.00 per student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed a total of \$45,270.00.

2. **PSA Healthcare – Norcross, GA.** Provide Nursing Services for the school year and the Extended School Year Program for a special needs student who is transported to an approved private school. This contract replaces the one previously approved by the Board in June 2014 as it increases the hours per day from 7 to 9 and also includes the Extended School Year Program. Services will be provided for 85 days, 9 hours per day at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$34,425.00.
3. **Variety Club Camp and Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Programs for 7 high school special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will include 6 weeks of ESY intensive support programming for 4 students at a total cost of \$22,500.00, 8 weeks of ESY vocational programming for 3 students at a total cost of \$10,800.00, Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy services for a total cost of \$5,400.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$38,700.00.
4. **Dr. Lisa Hain – Narvon, PA.** Conduct two required evaluations of two special needs students as per their IEPs and provide an educational report. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$7,000.00.
5. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy Evaluations and participate in meetings for Early Intervention students. Services will include 20 evaluations at a rate of \$170.00 per evaluation for a total of \$3,400.00, and participation in 20 Early Intervention meetings at a rate of \$93.00 per meeting for a total of \$1,860.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$5,260.00.
6. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide a certified Special Education Supervisor for the interim period following Dr. Mason's retirement. Supervisory support services will be provided for 5 days a week beginning April 8, 2015. In addition two transition days prior to April 8th will be included as part of this contract. Services will be billed at a rate of \$450.00 per day, including salary, benefits and travel/conferences as mandated by the MCIU and will be paid from the General Fund.
7. **Kara Canale – Collegeville, PA.** Provide psychological evaluation and reevaluation report services for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 24 hours per week for 8 weeks at a rate of \$70.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$13,440.00.

New Independent Contracts

8. **Cynthia Mosier – Jeffersonville, PA.** Provide Physical Therapy services for Early Intervention students entering the district. Services will be provided for 77 hours at a rate of \$63.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$4,851.00.
9. **Eric Belcher, Give & Take Jugglers – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide two juggling shows for students in grades 1-4 at Upper Providence Elementary. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$1,200.00.

- E. The Board approved a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement **#2015-02** with the parents of a student in special education in the amount of \$74,150.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.

***New Finance**

- F. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – February 2015
- PSDLAF – February 2015
- PSDMAX – February 2015
- Checking Account – February 2015
- PLGIT Account – February 2015
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – February 2015
- Payroll Account – February 2015
- Tax Account – February 2015

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – February 2015
- 7th Grade Activity – February 2015
- 8th Grade Activity – February 2015
- High School Activity – February 2015
- Athletic Account – February 2015

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – February 2015

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – February 2015
- Debt Service Fund – February 2015
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – February 2015

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – February 2015
- Cafeteria Checking Account – February 2015
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – February 2015
- Investment Account – February 2015

- G. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

***FEBRUARY**

*Check No. 12054 – 12071 \$ 205,895.59

- H. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **MARCH** in connection with the **SERIES A of GOB 2007**:

1. ***OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

***Capital Projects – Checks held for approval**

***March**

*Check No. 32863 – 32863 \$ 275.86

- I. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **MARCH** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:**

1. *New Holland Auto Grp. 2015 Ford Truck-Maintenance	
Department	\$ 23,757.00
TOTAL	\$ 23,757.00

VI. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the *Pre-Kindergarten Summer Readiness Pilot Program* to be held at Royersford Elementary School for eligible students entering Kindergarten. The program will run 4 days a week for 5 weeks, from Monday, July 6 through Thursday, August 6, 2015. Students will be instructed in the areas of Reading Readiness, Listening and Speaking, Math Readiness, Fine Motor Readiness, and Social/Emotional Readiness. The program will be staffed by one teacher and one instructional assistant. The teacher will be paid at the current curricular rate of \$30.00/hour plus benefits, and the assistant will be paid at the rate of \$16.36/hour plus benefits. The cost of the pilot program has been built into the current Curriculum and Instruction budget.
- B. The Board approved the following new textbooks for 2015-2016. Funding will be paid from the 2014-2015 Curriculum Budget and shall not exceed \$123,500.00.

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TEXTBOOK</u>	<u>PUBLISHER</u>
1. Honors Biology \$27,000	<i>Biology: Concepts and Investigations</i> Mariëlle Hoefnagel Class sets with 6yr online license for all students	Glencoe McGraw Hill
2. Life Science (7 th) \$46,000	<i>Life Science: Interactive Science for 21st Century Learners</i> Class sets with 6yr online license for all students	Glencoe McGraw Hill
3. Social Studies (6 th) \$46,500	<i>Discovering our Past: A History of the World (Early Ages)</i> Class sets with 6yr online license for all students	Glencoe McGraw Hill
4. Marketing (10 th -12 th) \$3,300	<i>Sports and Entertainment Marketing</i> Kaser/Oelkers, 4 th Edition 70 student textbooks	Cengage Learning

**All Teacher materials have been provided free of charge for all purchases above.*

VII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following conferences and workshops:

CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, to attend the "*Montgomery County Superintendent's Conference*" in Hershey, PA from April 15, 2015 through April 17, 2015. The total cost to attend this conference shall not exceed \$1,000.00 and is covered under Dr. Goodin's Superintendent contract.
- B. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and **Kate Seward**, Teacher, to attend "*International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Annual Conference*" in Philadelphia, PA from June 28, 2015 through July 1, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$1,092.00 (registration, mileage, and meals) from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget. No substitutes are needed.
- C. **Carol Ganister**, PIMS and Data Specialist, **Mary Quintrell**, Bookkeeper, and **Sarah Sacks**, Information Data Specialist, to attend "*PA Skyward 2015 Keystone State User Group Meeting*" in Hershey, PA on April 22, 2015 and April 23, 2015. The total cost to attend this conference is \$914.75 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- D. **Maren Bhalla**, College Career Coordinator, to attend "*Vanderbilt Counselor Conference*" at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN from April 8, 2015 through April 10, 2015. There is no cost to the district for this conference as all expenses are covered by Vanderbilt University.
- E. **Barbara O'Brien**, Media Specialist, to attend "*PSLA (PA School Librarians Association) Conference*" in Hershey, PA from April 30, 2015 through May 2, 2015. The total cost to attend this conference is \$800.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals). No substitute is needed.

BROOKE

- F. **Carrie Kuklinski**, Speech Language Therapist, to attend "*Evaluation and Treatment of Children Who Stutter*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on April 9, 2015. The total cost to the district is \$150.00 for a substitute.

NEW CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

- G. **Gwen Chand**, Special Education Teacher, to attend *"Access for Learning: Function, Access and Positioning for Students with Complex Bodies"* at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on April 17, 2015. The total cost to the district is \$150.00 for a substitute.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item D be separated.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-C and E-F and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved payment for the costs incurred (\$2,238.12) for the overnight travel of seven wrestlers who advanced to the PIAA State Individual Meet. The student-athletes travelled Wednesday, March 4 through Saturday, March 7, 2015. Dr. Goodin approved the wrestlers and coaches for travel and Board approval is now being sought. Funding will come from the Athletic Budget.

- B. The Board approved the following annual report of income and expenses as required by Policy #229 – Student Fund Raising.

1. Spring City American Legion Baseball, Inc.

- C. The Board approved the 2015-2016 school calendar. **(Attachment A4)**

New Other Business

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert commented that after looking at the Governor's budget and with this being all about fair funding it can be noticed that the budget is not fair and equitable to Spring-Ford. Mr. Dehnert referenced an email received from State Representative Tom Quigley which indicated that the Spring-Ford School District would see a net increase in taxes for the 2016-2017 school year of \$15 million. Mr. Dehnert expressed concern over passing a resolution calling for fair and equitable funding without understanding what that is. Mr. Dehnert felt that the meaning of fair and equitable is in the eye of the beholder and Spring-Ford is getting the short end, particularly the lower income residents.

Mr. DiBello stated that he would like to correctly inform the public with regards to fair and equitable funding as that is to move the legislative body in the right direction to actually put something in place so that there is a more fair and equitable funding formula across the state. He commented that what is allocated to school districts currently is not fair and equitable as the western portion of the state is getting more funding than the eastern portion of the state. Mr. DiBello addressed Mr. Dehnert's comment about the \$15 million tax increase and said that this was equal to there being a sales tax increase and a state income tax increase as well. Mr. DiBello spoke about House Bill 76 and that the outstanding questions related to this were that in this portion of the state roughly 25%-30% of additional taxes were going to come from this little neck of the woods based on the sales tax increase and the PA income tax increase. Mr. DiBello commented that Governor Wolf basically took the major aspects of House Bill 76 and incorporated it into his budget. Mr. DiBello stated that this leaves us in the

same position of where House Bill 76 was with the recommended increase in sales tax and personal income tax but still with many questions to be answered. Mr. DiBello added that he agrees that there is an unknown but if we do not do something then it is going to continue this way.

Mr. Dehnert said he believes it comes down to the definition of what equally distributed across the state is. Mr. Dehnert quoted from the report on the governor's budget which said this district will pay a net \$15 million more in taxes in 2016-2017. Mr. Dehnert stated that if you ask Pottstown they will think this is really fair and equitable but if you ask Spring-Ford, Perkiomen Valley, Pottsgrove, Owen J. Roberts and on down the line of our peer districts then they will say that this is not fair.

Mr. DiBello commented that the tax increases are associated to the sales tax and personal income tax not property tax. Mr. DiBello stated that we do not want to give the illusion to the people here this evening and in the community that the property taxes are going to go up \$15 million. He again stated that this is all related to the sales tax and the personal income tax. Mr. Dehnert stated that the \$15 million is net of the property tax reduction. Mr. DiBello said it is not related to property tax.

Mr. Pettit commented that the property tax is going to be reduced but it is a trade-off as they want to hit us with a sales tax but this has not yet gone through. Mr. Pettit stated that there is nothing wrong with the language in the resolution and he sees no reason not to approve this and send this resolution to Harrisburg.

Mrs. Heine stated that she thought in addition to this that the legislators were going to be invited to come to the district to talk about what they plan to do with this.

Mr. Dehnert replied that he is looking at some dates and he will need to get with Dr. Goodin but they are targeting April for doing this. Mr. Dehnert said that he also needs to coordinate with Representative Quigley and Dr. Goodin to see what the availability is but he believes it is something that is still on-tap. Mr. Dehnert added that he thinks before we ask people to do something specific or general we need to be more on target with what Spring-Ford wants because the message from Spring-Ford, Philadelphia, Pottstown, Owen J. Roberts, and a lot of districts is a different message.

Mr. Wolf commented that he interprets this resolution as getting the ball rolling on opening the door for us as Spring-Ford to define what is fair and equitable to us. He stated that the only way for that to happen is for us to speak out and talk to the representatives which then opens the door for us to bring those representatives in. Mr. Wolf said he does not see the resolution as defining what fair and equitable is but opening the door to get there so that we as a community can define what is fair and equitable.

Dr. Goodin stated that in a larger sense this resolution is asking the state government to enact a funding formula for public education which we do not have.

Mr. DiBello asked if the legislators were being invited to the April Board meeting and Mr. Dehnert replied that what was discussed in January was a town hall meeting. Mr. DiBello indicated that they had discussed this at the Community Relations Committee meeting and asked if Representative Quigley wanted to have a town hall meeting why are we getting involved with this?

Mr. Dehnert replied that Mr. Quigley did not request it he did. Mr. Dehnert asked if Mr. DiBello was against a town hall meeting and bringing our legislators in to talk about what Spring-Ford's interests are in property tax reform, tax reduction, and funding of school districts.

Mr. DiBello replied yes that he would like to see them first come to a Board meeting and state their position before we get behind this at a town hall meeting. Mr. DiBello added that he thinks it is appropriate for the representatives to come out. He commented that April is right before election and he is not sure if that has any correlation to this or not. Mr. DiBello said he thinks they should come here first, present to the Board and then the Board can decide where we go from there.

Mr. Jackson asked that the Board come back to the resolution and vote on it.

The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

- D. The Board approved **Resolution #2015-05** urging the General Assembly to establish a new funding formula for basic education. (**Attachment A5**)
- E. The Board gave approval for the Spring-Ford Area School District Graduation Commencement to be set for the evening of Thursday, June 11, 2015 in Coach McNelly Stadium. In the event of bad weather commencement will be moved indoors to the High School 10-12 Grade Center.
- F. The Board approved payment for the costs incurred (\$426.34) for the overnight travel of one swimmer who advanced to the PIAA State meet. The student-athlete travelled Friday, March 13 through Saturday, March 14, 2015. Dr. Goodin approved the swimmer and coach for travel and Board approval is now being sought. Funding will come from the Athletic Budget.

Dr. Goodin announced that the Board just approved a new administrator for the district in the 5-8 rotation and he asked that Mr. Mike DeCaro please stand up so everyone could welcome him to the district. Mr. Dehnert welcomed Mr. DeCaro aboard.

IX. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mr. Dehnert stated that tonight the Board also accepted the resignation and retirement of the Business Manager, Tim Anspach. Mr. Dehnert commented that the title for the position could be Chief Financial Officer or Business Office Manager. He stated that the direction is to get this person onboard by advertising and interviewing. Mr. Dehnert asked if the Board was in agreement with moving forward with this and no one objected.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On February 17, 2015 the Work Session of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:38 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf

Region III:

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Member was absent: **Dawn R. Heine**

The following Board Members arrived late: Thomas J. DiBello (7:40 p.m.)
and Joseph P. Ciresi (8:29 p.m.)

Board President, Mr. Dehnert, opened the meeting with the call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board met for an Executive Session last Wednesday evening to discuss personnel.

Taylor urged everyone not to miss the fashion event of the year. He announced that the Spring-Ford Music Association will be presenting "ROCK THE RUNWAY," this Saturday, February 21st. Tickets are only \$30 and include a first look at this season's most popular formal wear fashion, dessert, coffee and a goodie bag for the first 100 guests to arrive. More information is available at www.SpringFordMusic.org. Taylor next announced that today is National PTA Founders Day, an occasion to mark the substantial role that PTA has played in supporting parent involvement and working on behalf of all children and families. He expressed thanks to all of the district's parent organizations!

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement **#2015-01** with the parents of a student in special education in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.
- B. The Board approved the Preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$146,664,871.00.
- C. The Board approved filing with the Department of Education the 2015-2016 referendum exceptions for Special Education Expenditures (\$997,272.00) and Retirement Contributions (\$1,045,764.00), for a total estimated amount of \$2,043,036.00. These referendum exceptions represent 2.17% and could be used for allowable millage over the Act 1 State Index cap amount of 1.9% for a total of 4.07%. Exceptions are permitted due to the recognition that there are extraordinary district expenses above the rate of inflation.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Dehnert announced that Presentations A and C will need to be rescheduled for another month due to the weather conditions today.

Mr. DiBello arrived at 7:40 p.m.

- A. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Special Education Supervisor, **Christine Anderson**, Director of Foundation Relations, and **Mike Bovino**, Senior Consultant for Interscholastic Unified Sports, to recognize **Jake Adamson, Mick Alegado, Chandler Balch, Steven Cartwright, Jarred Christman, Nicholas Ferko, Jakob Fox, Taylor Frashetta, Alexis Graydon, Amanda Kopistecki, Dylan Leighton, Riley Lepard, Jonathan Madera, Joseph Santoro, Maria Walters, and Stephanie Wojton**, Student-Athletes, **Jillian Coady and Eli Yudt**, Unified Partners, on winning The Unified Sports through Special Olympics Bowling Championship. Recognition of **John Feldmann**, Teacher, **Renee Byrne, Mary Anne Christy, Debra DeMitis and Debra Swahl**, Instructional Assistants, on volunteering their time and all of their efforts towards the success of the Spring-Ford Team.
- C. **Dr. John George**, recently appointed Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Executive Director, to introduce himself and discuss the Goals and Vision for the MCIU.

Zachary Pearce introduced himself and provided an overview on his background. Mr. Pearce went through the handouts that he provided each Board Member with which included the PSBA Standards for Effective Governance, 2012-2013 Facts and Figures for all Pennsylvania School Districts, information on PSBA's services such as Career Gateway, Compensation Services, Legislative Services, Policy Services, and Buyboard. Mr. Pearce also provided the Board with the PSBA Region Map showing how the three territories; west, central and east, are divided up and who the PSBA Coordinator is for each territory.

- B. **Mr. Zachary Pearce**, PSBA Member Relations Coordinator for the East, to discuss changes within the PSBA Organization and the services PSBA provides to its members.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Taylor M. Auman/Dana Ludgate

Dana wished everyone a happy belated Valentine's Day and stated that she hoped everyone had a pleasant weekend and subsequent snow day. Dana reported that during the entire month of February professionals have been and will continue to be speaking about their various careers during presentations held throughout the school day. She advised any student interested in attending one of these seminars that they can find a complete list of speakers and sign up for any presentation through a link on the high school's homepage. Dana stated that students will be responsible for contacting their teachers to make up any assignments missed on the day of the presentation. Any additional information can be obtained from Mrs. McNeill in the Future Planning Center. Dana announced that in addition to career month February is also Teen Dating Violence Awareness month and the student council held a campaign selling orange shoelaces as a way of showing support for such an important issue. She added that posters showing statistics and facts about dating violence adorned the high school's hallways in an attempt to spread more consciousness. Dana invited students to wear their orange shoelaces throughout the rest of the month. Dana reported that the Yearbook Staff is requesting that people submit photos from various high school events during the school year. She advised everyone that photos can be uploaded through yearbookforever.com.

WMCTC Ciresi, Cromley, Heine 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley reported that the Joint Operating Committee met on 2/9/15. Mr. Moritzen reported that the specific enrollment totals would be available next month. He provided some rough figures which showed a total enrollment of 500 students and Spring-Ford has roughly 176 students attending. Mr. Cromley reported that there were no presentations due to the weather conditions. He commented that the 2015-2016 budget is in process and that the preliminary budget was given to the superintendents from the sending school districts. Mr. Cromley reported that there was a business manager and superintendent meeting that was held for the purpose of discussing the budget. Mr. Cromley added that the online application process continues and as of now there are 130 completed applications, 90 active applications are in process but have not yet been completed and communication is ongoing with these applicants to complete the process. Mr. Cromley reported that Outback Steakhouse continues to engage 11 WMCTC students. The students travelled to Outback and were given an orientation to the Bloomin' Brands International and the Outback Steakhouse itself. The orientation was led by the owner Kristen Clark and visitations will return again in March and April with a culminating week long activity in May. Photos of this activity can be found on the WMCTC Facebook page. Mr. Cromley reported that the Valentine's Day Community Dinner was held in spite of the bad weather on February 9th with 102 tickets sold. Mr. Cromley stated that the next community dinner will be held on March 2nd. Mr. Cromley advised the board that the annual financial report for the year ending June 30, 2014 revealed a fund balance of \$1,458,926.00. The three sending school districts voted to return the adjusted fund balance as of 6/30/2014 in the amount of \$728,523.00 based on an average of percentage paid in by each school district based on the 3 prior budget years. Spring-Ford's share to be returned to the district would be roughly 32.52% or \$236,915.60. Mr. Cromley reported that the JOC viewed a final presentation on the health insurance program selected for the staff at the Western Center and the recommendation was approved to join this program which would result in a savings in expenditures for all three sending districts. Mr. Cromley stated that there are 7 Spring-Ford Area High School students receiving hands-on training at local businesses through the school to work program.

Mr. DiBello asked about the fund balance money being returned to the districts and why WMCTC would not keep a portion or the majority of the surplus to use a reserve for future improvements that may be needed. Mr. Cromley stated that there are some of the funds that will remain at the Western Center but there was a significant overage that needed to be returned. Dr. Goodin added that the by-laws when they were established stipulate that overages need to be returned back to the sending districts. Mr. DiBello stated that the reason he brings this up is because Spring-Ford could be tapped for 50% of the cost of capital projects down the road so even though we get a portion of the money back it could cost us more long-term.

Discussion took place on the WMCTC by-laws and how they came to be and the unlikelihood of getting them changed.

Curriculum/Technology **Dawn Heine** **1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.**
Report next week

Extracurricular **Tom DiBello** **2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.**
Report next Week

Policy **Will Cromley** **2nd Mon. 7:00 p.m.**
Mr. Cromley reported that the Policy Committee met on 2/10/15 reviewed Policy 216 Student Records. Mr. Cromley stated that there are numerous stakeholders involved with this policy. The policy was previously 2 pages and now developed into a 23 page document. The policy will be submitted to the School Board in March and April for review and approval. Mr. Cromley said although he now heads up the committee the credit goes to Mrs. Heine and Dr. Roche for their leadership in the Policy Committee undertakings and final products in the past. Mr. Cromley reported that Policy 916 Community Volunteers was reviewed and changes are being flushed out due to Act 153 of 2014. The new law requires all district volunteers to obtain all 3 types of state and federal clearances and that they be renewed every 3 years. Policy 137 Home Education Programs was reviewed and will need to be revised due to Act 196 of 2014 which pertains to the evaluation process for granting high school diplomas. Mr. Cromley reported that Policy 121 Educational Field Trips is still being revised to state that only nurses will be dispensing medications while students are off campus. Mr. Cromley added that a policy will be developed on Skyping or electronic applications which will allow school board members to attend a meeting while out of the state or country. Additional details will be flushed out on this in the future.

Dr. Roche provided additional information on the review process for the home schooling program and the change in the review requirements.

Mrs. Spletzer asked about the change in the volunteer policy with regards to the background checks and the fact that we now have two categories; limited volunteers and substantial volunteers. Mrs. Spletzer stated that this change means there will be a substantial shift in requirements for parent volunteers.

Mr. Dehnert asked if there was any thought to looking into a policy, as discussed by the Board at the special meeting in December, regarding overnight travel approval by the superintendent for extracurricular activities. Mr. Cromley stated that the committee could certainly look into this.

Finance

Mark Dehnert

2nd Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Finance Committee met on 2/10/15. The committee reviewed the executive reports. Mr. Dehnert presented some of the highlights from those reports which were that the assessments remained unchanged from the previous month, real estate transfer tax collections if the current trend continues will result in about \$600,000 more than what was budgeted, earned income tax collections are trending better than what was budgeted and could result in anywhere from \$600,000 to almost \$2 million, self-insurance claims are \$623,000 under budget, payroll is approximately \$500,000 under budget, state reimbursements are higher than we anticipated, and there was no change in the cafeteria figures. Mr. Dehnert stated that another topic that came up was with regard to the appointing of a deputy tax collector. The board was not clear on the requirements for this and needed additional information.

Ryan Wall, tax collector for Limerick Township, and Julie Mullin, tax collector for Upper Providence Township, were present in the audience. Mr. Wall came forward and explained the reason behind the need for the appointment of a deputy tax collector. He provided the board with an overview of Act 164 which included continuing education requirements of 6 credits per year and the need to appoint a deputy tax collector so that if there is an emergency reason why the tax collector cannot fulfill their duties a temporary tax collector can step in and handle the job.

Mr. Dehnert stated that this would be put on the agenda for next week in order to get all 4 deputy tax collectors approved.

Discussion took place on the requirements for someone to be appointed as the deputy tax collector, how compensation would be handled, and who is ultimately responsible or liable for any problems that arise. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that what they are seeing from other districts is that it is tough for tax collectors to find deputy tax collectors so one way of dealing with it is for the tax collectors to trade off with each other and serve as deputy tax collectors for other areas. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the liability rests with the original tax collector's bonding company.

Mr. DiBello voiced concerns over the fact that two of the municipalities did not provide names only the information that in one municipality the deputy was the tax collector's daughter and in the other only that it was office staff. He pointed out the previous issues the district has had with a tax collector and there is a reason why this is being approached with apprehension.

Mr. Dehnert asked what would happen if the district did not approve a deputy the tax collector had selected. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that it would delay the process for the district to have a deputy in place.

Mr. Dehnert asked if Mr. Anspach could go back to all of the tax collectors and ask them to provide the district with the names of the deputy tax collectors for all 4 municipalities and that they choose someone who is bonded. Mr. Anspach said he would get this information to the board as it had been provided to him in an email.

Mr. DiBello stated that his objection was not about the selection of a deputy tax collector but more about the fact that they had not received the names of the deputy tax collectors for Royersford Borough and Spring City Borough. He stated that if we now have the names then he is okay with this moving forward.

Mr. Ciresi arrived at 8:28 p.m.

Additional questions were raised on the process and why the board even needed to approve this. Mr. Anspach stated that they would bring some clarity to the next meeting With regards to the names and the liability questions.

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Finance Committee discussed the refunding of the 2005 and 2007 bonds which provided \$1 million per year savings for the next 3 years. He stated that the board will need to decide what to do with the \$1 million when working on the budget for the 2015-2016 school year. The committee discussed the 2015-2016 budget. The board approved the preliminary budget tonight which is still a work in process. He added that they are already whittling down this budget to bring the tax increase down to something that is manageable. He stated that this work will continue between now and May until they get the figure down to an amount that is appropriate for the taxpayers.

Mr. DiBello stated that no tax increase is manageable and no tax increase is appropriate for the taxpayers.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the reality is that we have to balance the budget so we will have to see how that comes out.

Property

Clinton Jackson

2nd Tues. 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Jackson reported that the Property Committee met on 2/10/15 and some of the highlights discussed were the two Boy Scout projects. The band tower project was not approved as it presented too many liability issues for the district. The concession stand project will not move forward as the timeframe needed for the project will not work for the Boy Scout's schedule so options for another project will need to be determined. The committee also discussed parking issues at Royersford Elementary on days when there is snow accumulation and our Facilities Department will be reaching out to the township to help determine a parking solution. The committee received an update on Interstate Maintenance for the third year of their contract and this item will be on the agenda for approval. Mr. Jackson reported that the district will need to advertise for a part-time custodian due to the opening created when the current custodian moved to a full-time position. The committee discussed the new housing developments coming online for the district and how to handle the potential growth. Discussion took place on the possibility of exploring redistricting or expanding current buildings. The committee's recommendation is to have a full feasibility study completed. This recommendation will be submitted for board approval. The committee next discussed 9th Avenue exit versus the 10th Avenue exit and reviewed the drawings for both exits. The health and wellness center was discussed and it was determined that additional information was needed for options 5 and 7. Mr. Cooper will obtain the additional information needed and provide this information to the committee so that it can be further discussed.

Mr. Ciresi asked about the feasibility study saying one was just completed recently and wondered why another one was necessary. Dr. Goodin explained that the recent study was not a full study and it was time for the district to have a full study done. He also stated that they had looked into using the firm previously used but that firm is no longer this type of work. Mr. Ciresi asked when the last full study was done and Dr. Goodin replied five

years ago. Mr. Ciresi expressed concerns over doing this as well as using Crabtree to complete the work.

Mrs. Spletzer asked how the firm is chosen and Mr. Jackson replied that Mr. Cooper had spoken with the Crabtree firm in order to try and dovetail this request in with the request for the evaluation of the health and wellness center evaluation.

Mr. Ciresi stated that his concern is that as a Board they did not ask Crabtree to do any type service or architectural drawings with regards to the health and wellness center and it looks like a favor being done by giving them this bid for \$29,000. Mr. Ciresi stated that the board had been monitoring the housing developments coming online and the state projections. He stated that he felt it was premature to look at expanding buildings as there was enough space at Upper Providence and Evans to move kids around even though it would be a large process to redistrict. Mr. Ciresi added that all of the trends show that five years out there will be a decrease in population rather than an increase. Mr. Ciresi asked for an explanation on how all of this came up.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he does not believe anyone is talking about expanding buildings but simply to get an estimate on the growth from the new developments slotted for the district. Mr. Dehnert stated that the numbers show that there will be a need to redistrict some of the elementary schools especially at Oaks where many of the developments will be.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he does not disagree with redistricting at all. He stated that he understands that Mr. Anspach receives reports from all of the townships on all of the developments coming online as the Board has seen these in the past. Mr. Ciresi questioned the value of the \$5,000 expense of the last feasibility study.

Mr. DiBello expressed his confusion over the previous feasibility report that was presented to the board which included a layout of what the next 10 years looked like for the district including the changes in population. Mr. DiBello stated that the previous study included new developments and he questioned whether what was presented at the recent Property Committee meeting included those developments from the previous report or were there now new developments being discussed. Mr. DiBello commented that it is hard to support this new study in light of the concerns he just expressed.

Mr. Jackson stated that a feasibility study deals more with trends whereas the information coming from the townships is more real time. He asked for clarification on the studies done to date. Mr. DiBello provided the overview of the studies conducted previously and stated that the board was told that the study from last year included all approved developments to date that are on the books. Mr. DiBello again stated his question on whether what was presented at the Property Committee were the same developments that were included in the current feasibility study or were the developments presented really new. Mr. DiBello questioned what exactly the district would be paying for in the new study. Mr. Jackson stated that he had wished this information would have been presented at the Property Committee meeting. He suggested that in lieu of doing the new study they go back to the previous consultant and ask for greater clarification on what the report entails.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on their views on the previous feasibility study and some expressed concern over then need for a new one and the firm providing the work. It was pointed out that PDE requires feasibility studies for any type of construction project

especially if the district is looking to receive reimbursement from the state on any projects. It was decided that Dr. Goodin and Mr. Cooper would follow up on the previous feasibility study and find out what developments were listed and what new developments are online now. The information will then be shared with the Board.

Mr. Pettit questioned the motion regarding the feasibility study and that there was no cap on the total dollar amount when it came to any additional work that may need to be done as the motion only listed a per hour rate. The Board discussed this along with Mr. Cooper and a cap of \$10,000 was decided upon. Mrs. Fern will make sure the wording on the motion reflects this cap for next week.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Board met and they are getting ready to move into their new location in Norristown. He stated that there was slight setback as a water pipe burst and flooded the first floor. The IU is moving to clean this up and have repairs made. Mr. DiBello reported that the first IU Board meeting at the new facility is planned for next week. The MCIU Board had granted approval for administration to do a full salary study of all of the employees at the IU. He stated that it was interesting to note that results of the study showed that 30 people were being paid higher than the upper percentage of the salary range, 26 of the 30 were paid 15% higher and 6 or 7 were paid even higher than that. Mr. DiBello stated that the MCIU Board will be working with the MCIU Director to implement a strategy to address this. Mr. DiBello commented that the salary ranges are in line with the category of positions that people were assigned to. Mr. DiBello reported that Dr. George was named by the Reading Eagle as the Educator of the Year. Dr. George was nominated during the time he was working at the Berks County IU but on loan to the Reading School District in an effort to help them sort through financial difficulties they were experiencing. Under Dr. George's direction the district went from a loss to a surplus.

Mr. Dehnert asked how Dr. George's salary fit into the salary range study and Mr. DiBello replied that the salary the MCIU Board brought Dr. George in at was lower than that of the previous director and lower than surrounding intermediate units. Mr. DiBello stated that Dr. George is compensated accordingly.

PSBA Liaison

Todd Wolf

There was no report.

Asst. Superintendent Rpt. Dr. Allyn J. Roche

Dr. Roche reported that Spring-Ford's Twitter account has been Verified! Verification is currently used to establish authenticity of identities of key individuals and brands on Twitter. He informed everyone that when visiting Spring-Ford on Twitter, you will notice the little blue verified badge that looks like a white check mark inside a blue design! Dr. Roche thanked Ms. Erin Crew for her efforts in getting Spring-Ford this special status so our various stakeholders will know that the info on our account is authentic to Spring-Ford. Dr. Roche reminded the public that Session 2 of the Guiding Good Choices – Evening Parent Programs in partnership with Spring-Ford Counseling is just around the corner. He explained that Guiding Good Choices teaches parents of children from 9 to 14 how to promote healthy behaviors. It also addresses how to strengthen healthy bonds in the family, assertive discipline and how to reduce the risk factors of drugs and alcohol use. Dr. Roche reported that the first session was well attended and received great feedback from the attendees. He added that two more sessions will be offered and will

be loosely based upon the following grade spans; 5th & 6th Grade – Thursday March 12, 2015 and 4th Grade - Monday April 13, 2015. Dr. Roche announced that parents are welcome to attend all sessions but the conversations will be focused on the specific grade-level spans listed above. He advised parents that they need to pre-register for each session by contacting Mrs. Lori Blackburn via e-mail at lblack@spring-ford.net or by calling 610-705-6202. Dr. Roche announced that PSSA testing begins on April 13th with the opening of the PSSA English Language Arts testing window for all students in grades 3 thru 8. There is no separate Writing PSSA test this year as the Writing assessment has been folded in with the Reading portion to form the ELA PSSA. The PSSA Math testing window for students in grades 3-8 begins on April 20th. The PSSA Science testing window opens on April 27th for all students in grades 4 and 8. May 4th to 8th will be the make-up window for students who missed any portion of the ELA, Math and/or Science PSSA. Dr. Roche asked that everyone support the students during this time as it can be stressful while working through the state assessment process. Dr. Roche advised everyone that letters will be sent home to the parents of each student about the upcoming PSSAs to remind them of the importance of students being well rested for school as well as present in school. If a student is absent on a day of testing, they will be asked to make-up the assessment when they return so we hope to see all the students in school on the regular testing days. Dr. Roche reminded every-one that the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation is hosting the second annual SF Educational Foundation 5K Run and Walk along with a Kid Fun Run on Friday April 24, 2015. Proceeds from the 5K and Kid Fun Run will go to support the annual Senior Impact Awards that are held each spring. He stated that he hoped to see all of our school board members, administrators, teachers, support staff and our district solicitor participating in the 5K on Friday April 24th. Support can be in the form of volunteering to assist on the course, running or walking in the 5K, or by becoming a financial sponsor of the event. Dr. Roche advised everyone that additional information for race registration and sponsorship is available on the district website. Dr. Roche reported that today the Pioneer Athletic Conference met to vote on the application for PIAA membership by Norristown Area High School. He stated that by a unanimous vote, the Norristown Eagles have been accepted by the Pioneer Athletic Conference as a member beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. Norristown's three Middle Schools (East Norriton, Eisenhower and Stewart) will begin competing with the Pioneer Athletic Conference Middle Schools beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

Mr. Cromley asked if Dr. Roche knew of the new sport that we would have as a result of Norristown coming onboard. Dr. Roche replied no and Mr. Cromley stated bowling.

Solicitor's Report **Mark Fitzgerald**
There was no report.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the January 20, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. Administration recommends approval of the January 28, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

VI. PERSONNEL

There were no questions or comments.

A. Resignations

1. **Scott A. Burr**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School.
Effective: February 3, 2015.
2. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center.
Change of resignation date from March 13, 2015 to February 13, 2015.

B. Leaves of Absence

1. **Danielle E. Cushman**, Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: May 1, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
2. **Nina F. Wickersham**, Elementary Teacher, Brooke Elementary School; for an extension of child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: March 31, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

C. Support Staff Employees

1. **Joan E. Bickley**, Clerical Assistant, Senior High School; replacing Maureen A. Serago who retired. Compensation will be set at \$15.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
 2. **Brandy M. Kershaw**, Secretary, Senior High School; replacing Betty J. Ryan who retired. Compensation will be set at \$16.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
 3. **Leigh-Ann C. Simms**, Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Jennifer D. Wurster who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
- D. The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, entitled to tenure status:

Suzanne DelSordo ESL Teacher 8th Grade Center

VII. FINANCE

Mr. Pettit expressed the Board's appreciation for the parent-teacher associations and the home and school associations for all of their assistance and help with our schools.

- A. Administration recommends approval for next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

January

Check No. 156264 – 156306	\$ 203,724.08
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February

Check No. 156307 – 156470	\$1,408,104.25
ACH 141500366 – 141500377	\$ 655.98

2. Athletic Fund

January

Check No. 307688 – 307819	\$ 30,997.32
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C. Administration recommends approval of the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide a residency program for students at Spring City Elementary which would include a kick-off assembly, a grade level workshop once a week for five to six weeks and conclude with a final assembly where students perform alongside the ensemble. There is no cost to the district for this residency program as all funds are being paid by the Bard Foundation through Musicopia.

D. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:

1. **Dr. Jim Cianciulli – Jeffersonville, PA.** Conduct a Psycho-diagnostic Evaluation and provide an educational report for a special needs student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$750.00.
2. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 84 days at a rate of \$351.39 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$29,516.76.
3. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide music therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a rate of \$75.00 per hour for 46 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,450.00.
4. **Katherine Helm – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 125 hours at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,750.00.
5. **Steven Courtney, Manheim, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Kindness Matters”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$1,500.00.

- E. Administration recommends approval of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

JANUARY

Check No. 12037 – 12053

\$ 214,319.89

VIII. PROPERTY

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval for Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates, Mechanicsburg, PA to complete an updated full district-wide comprehensive feasibility study with enrollment projections and overviews of the district for space needed for a total cost of \$29,000.00. Additional work will be billed on a time and material basis at the Project Architect rate of \$145.00 per hour. Funding will come from 2014-2015 Maintenance Budget.
- B. Administration recommends approval of the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for year three of a three-year contract with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of contract #1 is \$732,547.54 beginning June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016. Contract #2 and Contract #3 will be billed at \$24.50 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2015/2016 Maintenance Budget.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the 2015 Summer String Lesson Program to be held at the 5/6 Grade Center for students in grades 4-12. The program will run 4 days a week for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district's summer school programs, Monday, June 22 through Thursday, July 23, 2015. Weekly lessons will be offered to students on a tuition basis, there will be no cost to the school district. The cost will be \$20.00 per half-hour private lesson. All tuition money that is collected will be submitted to the Business Office and the teachers will be paid at the current summer school salary rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits.
- B. Administration recommends approval of the 2015 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at the 5/6th Grade Center and possibly one Elementary Building. The program will run Monday through Thursday from June 25, 2015 to July 30, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.
1. Twenty-one (21) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 2. Seven (7) Special Education Teachers to work as tutors at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 3. Four (4) Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 4. Five (5) Teachers to work as WILSON Tutors for individual students as per the students' ESY IEPs at the rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 5. Forty-five (45) Instructional Assistants at a rate of \$16.36 per hour.
 6. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no questions or comments.

The following individuals are recommended for attendance at the following conferences and workshops:

CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, and **Barry Ziegler**, Supervisor of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend the “*Asbestos Certification/Recertification Courses*” in New Cumberland, PA on April 2, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$400.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- B. **Doug Landis**, Teacher, to attend “*LEWES AP European History Summer Institute*” from July 21, 2015 through July 24, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$1,300.00 (registration, mileage, meals) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Doug Weidner**, Teacher, to attend “*Intellectual Need in the Math Classroom*” at the MCIU on April 29, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$323.96 (registration, mileage, meals and a one day substitute) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- D. **Dana Rosenblum**, Teacher, to attend “*Using Assistive Technology to Support Students Through the Writing Process*” at the MCIU in the afternoon of March 19, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$75.00 for a half-day substitute from the substitute account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- E. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, **Kimberly Camilleri** and **Adam Swavely**, Teachers, to attend the “*Digital Content and Curriculum Creation Workshop*” at the String Theory Schools in Philadelphia, PA on March 3, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$300.00 (two substitutes for one day) to be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi comments that it is great that Evans is fundraising to pay for the cost of the sign. He asked if this information could be distributed to all of the other home and schools so that they will know where to go, how much and what the township requirements are.

- A. Administration recommends approval for the establishment of an electronic LED sign at Evans Elementary School. Funds for this project will come from fundraising efforts by the Evans Home and School Association during the 2015-2016 school year or until the appropriate amount is raised. The LED sign will replace the existing sign and will be placed at the same main entrance location.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Jackie Ritter, Limerick Township, stated she is also the SNAP Club Advisor at the High School. She announced that on March 6th they will have the annual Dodgeball Tournament. She stated that they are trying to put together an exhibition game and she wanted to extend an invitation to everyone who sits at the Board table to play in that game against the Spring-Ford Education Association. The Board accepted the challenge.

Rhiannon Zimmerman, Limerick Township, expressed thanks for the technology installations at the 8th Grade Center that have taken place over the past couple of weeks. She stated that on behalf of all of the staff members who received the new equipment she wanted to extend a sincere appreciation to the Technology and Curriculum Departments. She commented that the installation was done quickly and efficiently and that the technology staff helped them get acclimated to the new technology. Ms. Zimmerman stated that she wanted to assure the Board that the technology would be put to good use in their building.

Mr. DiBello commented that in the past when school was closed due to weather the School Board meeting was cancelled as well. He stated that this did not occur this evening and he felt that they needed to make a determination on what to do moving forward as a Board and stick to that decision. Mr. DiBello stated that they cannot have messages go out that everything is cancelled in the district and then change that mid-day to say that there is still a School Board meeting. Mr. DiBello commented that they need to decide that when school is cancelled whether they continue with what has been done in the past which was that the School Board meeting was cancelled as well.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he believed that the announcement made regarding cancelling school should state that the School Board meeting will be determined later in the day. He stated that on a day like today there was no reason why the Board meeting could not take place as the roads were dry and the weather was good. Mr. Dehnert added that there was also a need to have this meeting as there were a couple of action items that needed to be voted on or the Board would have had to meet between now and the next meeting on Monday. Mr. Dehnert suggest that they play it by ear as the reason to cancel school was for the safety of students and not the safety of School Board members and staff who must attend the meeting in the evening when the roads are fine.

Mr. Ciresi stated that there are 8,000 people that are being called regarding school cancellation and he does not think they want to receive another phone call on whether the School Board meeting is on or cancelled. Mr. Ciresi said that the vote that took place today could have occurred later in the week but prior to Monday. He felt today's events were a debacle and makes the public second guess administration on why school was cancelled. He felt that when school is cancelled then it should be cancelled across the district.

Mr. DiBello expressed his concerns over holding a Board meeting when we had already told everyone in the district that all activities and athletics are cancelled. He stated that he is not in favor of saying stay tuned for the meeting announcement later. Mr. DiBello questioned who is responsible for making the decision as he felt the decision that was made today was not the same as it had been done in the past.

Mr. Jackson asked if there was any legal position on this and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that there is nothing in school code or policy that addresses this and today was a unique set of events.

Mr. DiBello questioned what the protocol is moving forward. Dr. Goodin replied that for the sake of clarity it was his recommendation to hold the meeting this evening based upon the weather clearing up and the action items on the agenda requiring a vote. Dr. Goodin asked for direction from the Board on how they wish this to be handled in the future.

Mr. Pettit agreed that today was an odd set of circumstances with school and activities being cancelled and then the weather clearing enough to hold the meeting tonight. He suggested that a rule be put in place that if all activities are cancelled then the meeting should be postponed until another night.

Dehnert commented that he feels it should be governed by Board policy. Mr. Dehnert commented that the Board is entrusted to make decisions on a budget that will be around \$140 million and he feels that they should be able to use judgment on weather and road conditions and whether or not to hold a meeting. He did not feel a rule was necessary as the Board should be able to use some discretion.

Mr. DiBello disagreed with Mr. Dehnert and said the decision to hold the meeting was made by one board member as a result of Dr. Goodin's recommendation. He felt that there needs to be a game plan moving forward as he is not comfortable with waiting and seeing what happens. Mr. Dehnert stated that it could be taken back to policy and Mr. DiBello said it is not a policy.

Mr. Pettit stated that he did not feel there needs to be a separate policy for this and at minimum the Board should be polled to see if there is going to be a quorum for the meeting that evening before scheduling the meeting. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that polling the board is how the process should be done. He stated that his opinion is that whatever route the Board takes should be done through an official means and Policy 006 would be the correct policy for addressing this, if need be.

Mr. Dehnert commented that future boards will not know what was decided on this night if it is just a rule put in place but if it is done through policy then it is documented and can be referred to.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Moyer about the current capacity at Oaks Elementary and if there is any more room at the building. Mr. Moyer stated that they have one classroom that is not being used fulltime but next year he is anticipating that it will be used.

Mr. Jackson stated that the Board needed to come to a resolution on this with regards to holding or cancelling meetings in the future on days when school is closed.

Mrs. Spletzer stated that they will all be more considerate of everyone's feelings in the future.

Mr. Jackson said they need to come up with a solution now. Various scenarios were discussed. Mr. Dehnert again stated that they should put this into policy.

Dr. Roche gave clarification that after school and evening activities were two separate things and people perceive these as different. He stated that after school are generally those activities occurring before 5 and evening were those occurring after 5.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DiBello made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On February 23, 2015 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

Board President, Mr. Dehnert, opened the meeting with the call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor invited everyone to join SNAP this Saturday, February 28th at 2 p.m., for the hilarious magic of Sam Sandler! Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Proceeds from this family-friendly event benefit SNAP's Post-Prom party. Post-prom is a very special student experience offering amazing activities and games following prom. Post-prom is free for students who attend the prom or Spring-Ford juniors or seniors who choose not to attend the prom, though the cost of keeping Spring-Ford students safe on prom night is priceless. To learn more or to make a donation to SNAP visit www.sfsnap.org.

Dana announced that thanks to Mother Nature, you have a few more weeks to get your ticket to Spring-Ford Music Association's rescheduled ROCK THE RUNWAY fashion show, now held on Saturday, March 7th. In addition to great spring fashion, the first 100 guests will receive a goodie bag filled with fantastic items. For more information you can visit www.springfordmusic.org.

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board met in an executive session after last week's School Board meeting regarding personnel.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Elaine Ruppert introduced Tameka Sadler who was named as a Finalist in the 2015 Achievement Scholarship Program. Mrs. Ruppert explained the process that Tameka went through in order to be considered for this honor.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he has had the honor to work with Tameka through the Community Theater. He stated that she definitely deserves this award as she is a great example to the younger kids of what Spring-Ford students should be. Mr. Ciresi offered his congratulations to Tameka.

Mrs. Elaine Ruppert introduced Hans Kumar, William Leisner and Alexander Tomarelli on being named as Finalists in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. She spoke about the process these three students had to follow in order to advance to the finalist stage.

- B. Presentation to **Tameka N. Sadler** on being named as a "Finalist" in the 2015 National Achievement Scholarship Program.
- C. Presentation to **Hans Kumar, William George Leisner, and Alexander R. Tomarelli** on being named as "Finalists" in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mr. Alexander Cifelli stated that it is a pleasure to be invited to the meeting tonight. He stated that this year the spring musical will be "Footloose" and he provided information on the show dates and times. Mr. Cifelli introduced the students and invited everyone to enjoy preview of the show.

Dr. Goodin stated that Mr. Cifelli is new to the district and has taken on the challenge of working with the students on this year's musical production. Dr. Goodin invited everyone to come out and see a great show.

- D. **Mr. Alexander Cifelli**, High School Spring Musical Director, and High School Students from this year's Spring Musical "*Footloose*" to perform a song/dance number from the show.

Dr. Goodin commented that last month was School Board Director Recognition Month. He stated that we had to postpone our recognition due to the weather. Dr. Goodin said that the district wants to honor the School Board for all they do for the students. He presented each Board Member with a few token gifts in appreciation of all of the time they volunteer on behalf of the students. Dr. Goodin introduced a video which was shown of students expressing their thanks to the Board.

- E. Presentation honoring the **Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Directors** who volunteer their time for the betterment of public education in our community.

Dr. Goodin commented that today is the first day of Engineer's Week. He spoke about some of the activities taking place throughout the district using STEM related activities with a focus on engineering. Dr. Goodin commented that our staff have fully embraced STEM activities. Dr. Goodin spoke about the increase occupations in the STEM fields. Dr. Goodin spoke of the changes that have taken place in curriculum in the area of STEM education. He reported on the Project Lead the Way Program and the partnership with local industry. Dr. Goodin stated that tonight in recognition of Engineer's Week, we have a presentation on Royersford's after-school STEM program.

Mr. Michael Spletzer thanked the parents and students from Royersford who came out tonight. Mr. Spletzer stated that they appreciate the opportunity and the Board's efforts in the area of STEM. He reported that the Royersford after-school program started a

year ago. Mr. Spletzer showed a PowerPoint that highlighted the need for STEM education, future job trends, salary scales for various occupations, and the need for STEM education at the elementary level. Mr. Spletzer spoke about the start of the program at Royersford and their mission statement. Mr. Spletzer explained the development of the program, the structure of the program including the baseline testing they do so that they can track the progress of the students and the weekly schedule the students follow. Mr. Spletzer provided a two year overview of the program. Mr. Spletzer invited the students to come forward and demonstrate the various parts of the afterschool program they have worked on. The students concluded their presentation by singing the ABCs in German.

Alex Tomarelli explained how he became involved in the program and spoke about the benefits of the program as well as the rewards he has experienced working with the kids in the program. Haley Spletzer spoke about how the students involved of the program have advanced and grown. Andrea Weber reported on the educational component of the program both as a parent of a student in the program, as a teacher and also as an advisor to the program. Another parent of two students involved in the program spoke about the rewarding experiences her children have had. Cole a student from Royersford shared why science is important to him. Janelle, also a student from Royersford spoke about learning how to speak German and the importance of speaking different languages.

Mr. DiBello commented that he has been a major proponent for pushing STEM since he has been on the Board. He said he agrees with the concept and he feels we need an aspect of this throughout the district. Mr. DiBello stated that there needs to be a curriculum built that helps kids continue down this tract until they get to high school. Mr. DiBello said he would like to see this go a step forward and see Spring-Ford look at STEAM as we have students who will want to focus and steer their careers towards the arts. Mr. DiBello stated that he feels the district needs to be a holistic educational environment. He cautioned that finances were and issue and needed to be considered.

Mr. Spletzer stated that he appreciates the board pushing for STEM but felt that STEAM clouds the issue. Mr. Spletzer felt that students should be clearly advised that careers in the arts would not have the same financial return as those in the STEM field.

Mr. Ciresi strongly objected to Mr. Spletzer's comments about the arts. He stated that he is a huge fan of STEM education but wanted to stress the importance of the arts in his life. He stated that we need to focus on a well-rounded student. Mr. Ciresi stated that the arts are a central part of life and he felt that Europe kills the United States in that their students are well-versed in the arts. Mr. Ciresi commented that from the arts comes scientists and every great scientist has a background in art. Mr. Ciresi commented that the district has the obligation to educate the whole child and arts are just as important as athletics and science. Mr. Spletzer said he agrees with Mr. Ciresi and commented that he is an artist himself. He stated that if the district has limited resources then they need to give the kids what will give them the best bang for their buck. Mr. Spletzer spoke about the athletic program and said that it is a great program but he would like to ask if any kid has ever gone on from the program to play professional ball so the chances of a student making a good living in this area are slim to none. Mr. Spletzer stated that the same thing goes for the arts and theater and he questioned how many of our students have gone on to perform on Broadway or in the Philadelphia Orchestra. Mr. Spletzer commented that if a

student were to get a degree in engineering then they will be able to get a good job and provide for their family.

Mr. DiBello stated that he hears what Mr. Spletzer is saying and does not want to go down that road. He commented that he is a huge proponent of the STEM initiative but it takes time to develop and it is a large investment. He spoke about the Hybrid Learning initiative and that it has been a huge success thus far. Mr. DiBello said he would like to see aspects of Hybrid Learning moved forward in the district as well.

Alex Tomarelli commented that he believes that everyone is in agreement that STEM is a very important part of the future of education. He added that he feels it is very easy to focus on things such as sports and arts but a lot harder to focus on things such as STEM.

Mr. Jackson stated that we talked about a broad brush of topics tonight but we need to start at the very beginning and from there it can grow. He commented that it all goes back to dollars. The current STEM Program must grow but it becomes problematic when you try to do too much too quick. Mr. Jackson stated that he supports this but we need to take time to move this forward.

Mr. Dehnert commented that we have a lot of initiatives in the district and we need to take a step back to see where we want to get to, develop an overall strategy for where we want to be and figure out how we will get there.

Dr. Goodin reminded the Board that the goal is to provide a well-rounded educational opportunity for our students. Dr. Goodin commented that we have a wide variety of interests among our students and he thinks we do a good job with this. Dr. Goodin stated that the focus of the Curriculum Committee has been to create a variety of opportunities for our students, not just those that are STEM related.

Mr. Spletzer offered the assistance of himself and those involved in the program to help with any discussions taking place about initiating this type of program at the elementary level. Mr. Dehnert stated that we need to involve stakeholders in this process.

Mr. DiBello stated that we need to look at all of this and continue to move forward by getting aggressive again, expand and roll out programs.

Mr. Dehnert commented that one of the great things about STEM training is that it goes in more fields than technology. He added that STEM teaches math and science and critical thinking which is needed in any profession you do.

- A. In recognition of Engineers Week, **Mr. Michael Spletzer**, **Ms. Andrea Weber**, Parents, **Mr. Alexander Tomarelli**, High School Student, and Royersford Elementary Students, to present on the "STEM in Practice" after-school program at Royersford Elementary School.

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine 1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on February 3, 2015. The first topic discussed was modernized learning. Mrs. Heine announced that this initiative is officially in pilot mode. She added that there are a total of four deployment meetings

scheduled. Two of those meetings have taken place thus far. The meetings require the attendance of parents and students. The initial parent feedback on the launch of this initiative has been very positive. Mrs. Heine expressed appreciation to Mr. Reynolds and his team for preparing and learning four different devices in a short period of time. Mrs. Heine stated that all classes in this pilot are STEM classes. The committee next discussed SMART Classrooms. She stated that 80 of 110 rooms have been completed. Once the install is complete teachers are given a brief how-to session. The question on how to start the process earlier next year was raised and after some discussion and reassurance that this budget line item would not be removed, Mr. Reynolds agreed that he and his staff could be ready to go once the budget is approved. The committee viewed a video that was produced by Spring-Ford staff and starred one of the instructional coaches. The video was made to assist teachers with creating and utilizing text dependent questions. This method encourages small group collaboration and larger discussion to complete the lesson. A concern over the age of sociology books was brought the Curriculum and Instruction Department. These books were further down on the schedule for replacement but may need to be reevaluated. The Committee expressed concern that they do not want to make fluid changes to the review cycle based on requests as there are many requests made and needs exist. The Committee discussed the Advanced Placement US History course which is up for review by the College Board. Mrs. Heine reported that the current curriculum does not align with the AP test which creates a gap. Mrs. Heine added that the book being utilized will not fit the needs when the Spring-Ford course is realigned to the College Board standards. No book purchase is currently in the 2015-2016 CIA budget. Discussion regarding books and their utilization in the classroom. More often than not, the textbook purchases are transitioning to the Hybrid model where there is a class set purchased and the online book is for student home use. The Curriculum Department will review these two book needs and determine if they should be added to the budget for 2015 or kept in the current review cycle.

Mr. DiBello commented that he went to one of the deployment meetings and witnessed first-hand the parents and kids excitement regarding the Modernized Learning Concept. He stated that it was great to see the excitement around this.

Community Relations

Todd Wolf

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Wolf reported that the Community Relations Committee met on February 17, 2015 with an agenda slated to review SNAP finances, update/rewrite resolution 2015-05, a community engagement consultant update, new branding pieces and an RCTV update. Mr. Wolf stated that as per the request made by the board, relating to Mr. Ciresi's suggestion that the Board give \$10,000 to SNAP to help with the issues created by a budget shortfall, the committee met with SNAP representatives to discuss their financial situation. Mr. Wolf gave an overview of the SNAP organization, the service they provide and their purpose. Mr. Wolf reported that the post-prom event this year will take place on April 25th and listed the remaining fundraising events planned for this year. The SNAP representatives that were present for the committee meeting expressed concerns over their \$10,000 shortfall and the consequences of not having enough money and volunteers to hold the post-prom party. The representatives reported that the post-prom party being held this year is financed from the funds raised last year while revenues being generated this year will fund next year's event. The representatives felt that the shortfall this year was due to the fact that they did not hold the Dancing with the Stars fundraiser last year. Mr. Wolf reported that he had expressed his concerns over the school district setting a precedent of subsidizing a community funded event as there are

many other groups competing for donated dollars and volunteers. Mr. Wolf reported that Mr. DiBello strongly felt that that SNAP like many other Spring-Ford programs is dying on the vine and if refused the donation SNAP will not be able to continue to provide this spectacular free post-prom event. Mr. Wolf reported that several suggestions for resolution were discussed which included the district subsidizing the event, the district loaning the funds to get them through the hardship, using funds that were raised this year for next year's event on this year's event, charging admission to the event, making the post-prom event part of the prom and combining efforts to raise funds, asking for a specific amount on the SNAP website and creating and implementing additional fund-raising means and methods. Mr. Wolf reported that the SNAP review took up most of the allotted meeting time. Mr. Wolf advised the Board that financial and historical information has been provided to everyone in order to determine a solution. Mr. Wolf reported that second on the agenda was the revision of resolution 2015-05 and outlining the upcoming town hall event. The committee recommended submitting the resolution as-is and making plans to invite state representatives to an upcoming board meeting. The third thing on the agenda was the community engagement consultant update. He commented that Erin Crew submitted a document highlighting press releases, media coverage, upcoming projects, and social media updates. Mr. Wolf thanked Ms. Crew for what she brings to Spring-Ford in her capacity as the community engagement consultant. The next agenda item was new branding pieces and Ms. Crew and Mr. Bonetz briefly discussed the purchase of a branded Spring-Ford 8x8 backdrop to stage media presentations. The committee did not get to the final agenda item which was the RCTV update but instead Mr. Bonetz provided Mr. Wolf with a tour of the broadcasting studio. Mr. Wolf stated that he was impressed with the experience.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he is proud to say that he has been part of SNAP since they began here in the district and he will continue to be part of it until his son graduates and beyond. He spoke of the countless hours the volunteers put in. Mr. Ciresi asked the Board to support giving \$10,000 to SNAP and invited the other Board Members who have never attended the post-prom event to come out, give their time and see this event firsthand.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to move forward with giving \$10,000 to SNAP and Mr. DiBello seconded it.

The Board entered into a lengthy discussion on the reasons for the shortage and the way the SNAP Organization budgets the funds year to year. It was suggested to take the discussion to the Finance Committee. Concerns were raised over agreeing to give the funds to SNAP as there are a lot of organizations in the district that do a great job and the district could be going down a slippery slope by doing this. The option of lending the money to SNAP with the promise of them paying it back was raised. Another option of charging students to attend was raised. Both of these options were not favorably received.

Mr. Tom Jarjisian, SNAP Treasurer, came forward and spoke about the decision made last year not to hold the Dancing With the Stars fundraiser. He stated that a lot of time and effort goes into that event and last year they tried to give people the year off but then found that they were not able to make up the shortage. He also spoke about the lack of volunteers last year. Mr. Jarjisian stated that they plan on trying other things in the future to prevent this from happening again and that possibly they will have to charge everyone a \$5.00 fee. He commented that right now they are asking for help.

Mrs. Colleen Zasowski, resident, stated that she has a son who graduated in 2013 and 3 daughters in elementary school. She commented that she has a background in counseling and cautioned that if you lose the student's interest in attending this event at this time you will not get them back. She spoke about the risk of students getting hurt or even worse losing them on this dreadful night. Mrs. Zasowski expressed appreciation to the SNAP Committee on their efforts.

Dana Ludgate, Student Representative, stated that there is a paradox that goes along with solving a problem and SNAP is a great example of that. She added that before SNAP there were kids that went out and partied after prom and they were getting into trouble and SNAP eradicated this by giving students something else to do. Dana stated that the community then felt that there was not a need for SNAP since students were no longer getting in trouble but that is because SNAP exists. Dana commented that it amazes her that people do not think this is a big deal but as a teenager in high school this is a big deal to them and she stated that if the Board does not help SNAP now then problems will only get worse.

Mr. Wolf stated that no one is arguing that point but the concern is over making sure the program is sustainable. He added the solution must be sustainable so that the problem does not happen again. Mr. Wolf commented that he is not saying that he does not support this.

Taylor Auman, Student Representative, questioned if Mr. Wolf's concern was perpetuating a precedent for every year to follow and Mr. Wolf stated that this is a slight concern but his real concern is the moral hazard. He explained that if you cover something and you are already having a problem finding volunteers and funding this thing then it just exasperates the problem. Taylor asked if this is the first time SNAP has asked for any money and the reply was yes. He asked about the timeframe the board has to work within to decide how to delineate the funds to be provided to SNAP whether they come from the Board or the community.

Mr. DiBello responded that we have about a month as all of the ordering and scheduling is underway. Mr. DiBello stated that he agrees with Mr. Wolf that the Board is not there as a safety net and they are where they are this year and we need to help by getting behind this event this year.

Mr. Shawn Riordan, Limerick, stated that he has 2 children in the district. He commented that the SNAP Committee learned from past experience and that is why they are doing Dancing With the Stars this year. He added that if they get a poor turnout at the post-prom then it will affect future years as word of mouth travels quickly and the next year is when you will see the impact. Mr. Riordan commented that we do not want to see kids down the road get into the problems that could occur if they were not going to the after prom party.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that she is in favor of the one-time donation to keep SNAP underway. She stated that the way she looks at this is that the school district spends a lot of money on security for our physical assets, our students, our buildings. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she would even advocate that the Board make a sizeable donation going forward as these are our children and our community.

Mr. Wolf commented that this is a valid point but if you are going to do this then you have to make it a part of the cost of doing the prom. He stated that you cannot just write a check and think that you are solving the problem. Mr. Wolf added that for this to be sustainable then either the school is going to take it on as a worthy project and a cost or if this is going to be a community funded event then we need to find a more reliable way to fund it.

Mrs. Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, stated that with regards to adding to the cost of the prom, the way the funds are raised for the prom is that the junior class is fundraising for this year's prom. She commented that if you are a senior who busted their hump to raise funds for the class ahead of you to have a good prom then you luck out. Mrs. Mullin added that if you are the head of a class that is struggling, prom tickets this year are \$70.00 per head. She cautioned that if you add much more to the cost in order to attend SNAP that night then you are going to lose kids. She begged the Board to do this one-time donation.

The motion passed 9-0.

The Board approved a donation of \$10,000.00 to SNAP.

Extracurricular Tom DiBello 2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello tabled his report and commented that Alexander Cifelli attended the Extracurricular Committee meeting. Mr. DiBello stated that he had asked the group to come out tonight and perform because the work that Mr. Cifelli is doing with the theater program and the excitement he brings is tremendous. Mr. DiBello commented that he wanted to highlight this as Mr. Cifelli has been a great addition to the district and tonight's performance is very telling of what is to come.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that the district will be represented on March 11th at the Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce Regional Business to Business Expo taking place at Pope John Paul High School. He invited everyone to stop by, support the Chamber of Commerce and see the different businesses that will be represented here. Dr. Goodin announced that two of the district's administrators have gone on to earn their doctoral degrees. He reported that Mr. Patrick Nugent had successfully defended his dissertation last Friday and Mrs. Kathleen Kotch successfully defended her dissertation last month. He congratulated both Dr. Nugent and Dr. Kotch on earning their doctoral degrees.

Solicitor's Report Mark Fitzgerald

There was no report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the January 20, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

B. The Board approved the January 28, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approved Items A-D and Mr. Wolf seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Scott A. Burr**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School.
Effective: February 3, 2015.
2. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center.
Change of resignation date from March 13, 2015 to February 13, 2015.

B. Leaves of Absence

1. **Danielle E. Cushman**, Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: May 1, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
2. **Nina F. Wickersham**, Elementary Teacher, Brooke Elementary School; for an extension of child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: March 31, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

C. Support Staff Employees

1. **Joan E. Bickley**, Clerical Assistant, Senior High School; replacing Maureen A. Serago who retired. Compensation will be set at \$15.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
2. **Brandy M. Kershaw**, Secretary, Senior High School; replacing Betty J. Ryan who retired. Compensation will be set at \$16.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
3. **Leigh-Ann C. Simms**, Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Jennifer D. Wurster who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.

- D. The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, approved for tenure status:

Suzanne DelSordo ESL Teacher 8th Grade Center

VI. FINANCE

Mrs. Heine asked that Item K be separated.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

- A. The Board approved next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

January

Check No. 156264 – 156306 \$ 203,724.08

February

Check No. 156307 – 156470 \$1,408,104.25

ACH 141500366 – 141500377 \$ 655.98

2. Athletic Fund

January

Check No. 307688 – 307819 \$ 30,997.32

3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

*February

*Check No. 156471 – 156508 \$ 198,127.83

4. *Board Checks held for approval

*February

*Check No. 156509 – 156537 \$ 110,925.80

*ACH 141500378 – 141500408 \$ 11,906.54

- C. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide a residency program for students at Spring City Elementary which would include a kick-off assembly, a grade level workshop once a week for five to six weeks and conclude with a final assembly where students perform alongside the ensemble. There is no cost to the district for this residency program as all funds are being paid by the Bard Foundation through Musicopia.

***New Independent Contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Association:

2. **Benmor Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly program entitled "Rocks, Minerals and Fossil Show" along with two dig workshops for third grade students at Brooke Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$525.00.

3. **Tails of the Tundra Siberian Husky Rescue – Horsham, PA.** Provide an informational assembly at Limerick Elementary on the Siberian Husky and Canine Powered Sports such as the Iditarod. This assembly is being held in conjunction with the IditaREAD Reading Incentive Program. There is no cost to the district.

D. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Dr. Jim Cianciulli – Jeffersonville, PA.** Conduct a Psychodiagnostic Evaluation and provide an educational report for a special needs student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$750.00.
2. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 84 days at a rate of \$351.39 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$29,516.76.
3. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide music therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a rate of \$75.00 per hour for 46 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,450.00.
4. **Katherine Helm – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 125 hours at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,750.00.
5. **Steven Courtney, Manheim, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Kindness Matters”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$1,500.00.

***New Independent Contract**

6. **PSA Healthcare – Elkins Park, PA.** Provide Nursing Services for the remainder of the school year and for the Extended School Year Program for a student in the multiple disabilities class as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 hours per day, 5 days per week at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$39,600.00.

E. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

JANUARY

Check No. 12037 – 12053

\$ 214,319.89

***New Finance**

F. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – January 2015
- PSDLAF – January 2015
- PSDMAX – January 2015
- Checking Account – January 2015

- PLGIT Account – January 2015
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – January 2015
- Payroll Account – January 2015
- Tax Account – January 2015

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – January 2015
- 7th Grade Activity – January 2015
- 8th Grade Activity – January 2015
- High School Activity – January 2015
- Athletic Account – January 2015

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – January 2015

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – January 2015
- Debt Service Fund – January 2015
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – January 2015

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – January 2015
- Cafeteria Checking Account – January 2015
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – January 2015
- Investment Account – January 2015

- G. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **FEBRUARY** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:**

*CDW Government Inc.	Technology-District-wide (3 Invs)\$	4,089.78
*Delco Solutions LLC	Projector/Smartboard Upgrade	
	District-wide	\$ 71,157.56
*Spring-Ford ASD	Apple Inc.-Technology	
	District-wide	\$ 5,060.00
	TOTAL	\$ 80,307.34

- H. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits:**

Permits No. 5183 – 5210

- I. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough No. 115 – 116

- J. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough Additions No. 145 – 147
Upper Providence Deletions No. 085 – 781

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item K and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.

Mrs. Heine questioned if any of these appointments had gone to the county as already approved. Mr. Anspach reported that one had. Mrs. Heine asked how that happened if the Board had not yet approved it. Mrs. Heine expressed concern that things were being done in different ways for the different tax collectors and that there needed to be consistency. Mr. Anspach stated that this is what is being done now by listing all of the tax collectors in this motion. Mrs. Heine asked what the repercussions would have been for that one that went to county if the Board did not approved this and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that it would be null and void. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that it is a two-fold process and the tax collector makes the recommendation for the deputy tax collector but the School Board must then approve the individual. Mr. Fitzgerald said if the Board did not approve the individual then it would be null and void.

The motion passed 9-0.

- K. The Board approved the appointment of the following Deputy Tax Collectors per Act 1674 of 2014. Tax Collectors are now required to appoint a deputy tax collector who "shall collect and settle taxes during any incapacitation of the tax collector".

Tax Collector - Municipality

Julie Mullin - Upper Providence
Ryan Wall – Limerick
Mary Rex – Spring City
Sharon Romer – Royersford

Appointed Deputy Tax Collector

Ryan Wall
Julie Mullin
Susan Lusch
Lauren Romer

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi asked that Item B be separated.

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for year three of a three-year contract with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of contract #1 is \$732,547.54 beginning June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016. Contract #2 and Contract #3 will be billed at \$24.50 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2015/2016 Maintenance Budget.

Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to approve Item B and Mr. Wolf seconded it. The motion passed 7-2 with Mr. Ciresi and Mrs. Heine voting no.

- B. The Board gave approval for Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates, of Mechanicsburg, PA to complete an updated full district-wide comprehensive feasibility study with enrollment projections and overviews of the district for space needed for a total cost of \$29,000.00. Additional work will be billed on a time and material basis at the Project Architect rate of \$145.00 per hour, not to exceed \$10,000.00. Funding will come from the 2014-2015 Maintenance Budget

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved the 2015 Summer String Lesson Program to be held at the 5/6 Grade Center for students in grades 4-12. The program will run 4 days a week for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district's summer school programs, Monday, June 22 through Thursday, July 23, 2015. Weekly lessons will be offered to students on a tuition basis, there will be no cost to the school district. The cost will be \$20.00 per half-hour private lesson. All tuition money that is collected will be submitted to the Business Office and the teachers will be paid at the current summer school salary rate of \$30.00/hour plus benefits.
- B. The Board approved the 2015 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at the 5/6th Grade Center and possibly one Elementary Building. The program will run Monday through Thursday from June 25, 2015 to July 30, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.
 - 1. Twenty-one (21) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 2. Seven (7) Special Education Teachers to work as tutors at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 3. Four (4) Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 4. Five (5) Teachers to work as WILSON Tutors for individual students as per the students' ESY IEPs at the rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 5. Forty-five (45) Instructional Assistants at a rate of \$16.36/hour.
 - 6. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day at a rate of \$30.00/hour.

New Programming and Curriculum

- C. The Board approved the Cool School Program. This program will be open to all elementary students. Approximately 40 teachers will instruct the courses and their reimbursement will be at the contract established rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. A stipend of \$5,000.00 will be paid to **Kristin A. Landis** as the Coordinator of the Cool School Program. There will be no cost to the district as all expenses will be covered by the student tuition fees.
- D. The Board approved the **Summer Instrumental Band Camp** for grades 4-6 under the direction of **Mr. James Westlake**, to be held at the 9th Grade Center. The program will run from Monday, June 29 through Thursday, July 2, 2015 concluding with a mid-day concert on Thursday July 2nd that is open to parents and guests. Tuition will be set at \$75.00 per student to cover staffing and building usage costs as per district costs and will be due after May 1, 2015, the deadline for determining if we have a sufficient amount of interest in the program. If there is not enough interest in the Band Camp, the traditional lesson based 5 week summer program (similar to the Strings Lesson Program) will be run.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following conferences and workshops:

CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations

DISTRICT OFFICE

- B. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, and **Barry Ziegler**, Supervisor of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend the “*Asbestos Certification/Recertification Courses*” in New Cumberland, PA on April 2, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$400.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Doug Landis**, Teacher, to attend “*LEWES AP European History Summer Institute*” from July 21, 2015 through July 24, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$1,300.00 (registration, mileage, meals) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Doug Weidner**, Teacher, to attend “*Intellectual Need in the Math Classroom*” at the MCIU on April 29, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$323.96 (registration, mileage, meals and a one day substitute) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- E. **Dana Rosenblum**, Teacher, to attend “*Using Assistive Technology to Support Students Through the Writing Process*” at the MCIU in the afternoon of March 19, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$75.00 for a half-day substitute from the substitute account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- F. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, **Kimberly Camilleri** and **Adam Swavely**, Teachers, to attend the “*Digital Content and Curriculum Creation Workshop*” at the String Theory Schools in Philadelphia, PA on March 3, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$300.00 (two substitutes for one day) to be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

NEW CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

- G. **James Westlake**, Teacher, to attend the “*Conn-Selmer Institute*” in Elkhart, Indiana from Sunday, March 8 through Tuesday, March 10, 2015. The total cost to the district is \$300.00 for a substitute for two days. All other fees for Mr. Westlake are being paid by Conn-Selmer, Inc.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board granted approval for the establishment of an electronic LED sign at Evans Elementary School. Funds for this project will come from fundraising efforts by the Evans Home and School Association during the 2015-2016 school year or until the appropriate amount is raised. The LED sign will replace the existing sign and will be placed at the same main entrance location.

New Other Business

Mr. Dehnert noted Item B and thanked the Oaks Parent Teacher Association.

Mr. Pettit acknowledged all of the Home and School Associations for all of their efforts and their support of the district.

Mr. Cromley asked the officers of the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association who were present in the audience to please stand up so that they could be acknowledged for all of their efforts.

- B. Administration acknowledges the acceptance of the donation of \$3,987.00 from the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association to be used towards the purchase and installation of four (4) Shure Wireless Microphone Systems for the recently installed projector in the Cafetorium at Oaks Elementary.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve the resolution as mentioned in the Community Relations Committee report. Mr. Wolf confirmed it was Resolution 2015-05. Mrs. Heine restated the motion saying she would like to make a motion to approve Resolution 2015-05 as it stands.

Mr. Dehnert stated that it is hard for him to consider this as he is not sure of what the resolution says.

Mrs. Heine commented that this is the motion that was pushed back to the committee to make the decision on whether or not to send the letter as mentioned in Mr. Wolf's report to the legislators as well as invite them back to discuss the legislation at one of the Board's meetings.

Mr. DiBello asked that protocol be followed and stated that there was a motion and a second is needed prior to comments being made.

Mr. Ciresi seconded Mrs. Heine's motion.

Mr. Fitzgerald expressed concern over the resolution not being affixed to the agenda and the Board taking action on this. Mrs. Heine questioned the fact that it had been a previous motion on an agenda. Mr. Fitzgerald again stated that this would be a concern.

Mr. Dehnert questioned the rush to approve it this month and suggested it be put on the agenda for next month so that the Board has a chance to take another look at this. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he would simply like the resolution to be reflective of the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. DiBello asked what Mr. Fitzgerald's recommendation was and Mr. Fitzgerald stated that they should bring the motion back in March since the resolution was not attached and the public at large had not had the opportunity to see the motion. A motion is being brought up and the resolution is not there.

Mr. Pettit commented that he agrees with Mr. Fitzgerald and it is of no harm waiting until March to vote on this.

Mrs. Heine withdrew her motion and Mr. Ciresi withdrew the second.

Sharon Romer, Royersford, commented that Lauren Romer is her daughter and a 2009 graduate of Spring-Ford and 2013 graduate of Ursinus. She stated that Lauren is more than qualified to be the deputy tax collector if something were to happen to her. Mrs. Romer explained that there was a tax collector meeting at the beginning of November – December and they were told that effective immediately there needed to be a deputy tax collector. Mrs. Romer stated that no one else uses her program so that is why she chose her daughter. Mrs. Romer added that when they were told to settle in January they were told to bring their deputy papers with them so that is why she took the papers down prior to the board approval.

A member of the audience who did not identify herself asked when the calendar would be approved and Dr. Goodin replied that it would be on the March agenda.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACTS
MARCH 23, 2015

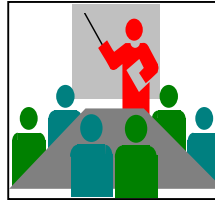
	Contract Title	Season	Last Name	First Name	Stipend
1	Volunteer Contract - Track	Spring	Blattner	Mark	\$0.00
2	Asst. Softball Coach-HS	Spring	Greene	Mallory R.	\$3,991.00
3	Head Cheerleading Winter-8th Grade	Winter	Kardick	Maria B.	\$1,875.00
4	Asst. Lacrosse Coach-Boys-HS	Spring	Monzo	Daniel A.	\$3,991.00
5	Scoreboard Operator (as needed)	as needed	Seislove	Timothy J.	\$50/game
6	Track Coach-Boys & Girls-Spring-HS	Spring	Stauffer	Danielle L.	\$6,918.00
7	Asst. Lacrosse Coach-Girls-HS	Spring	Ward	Rose M.	\$2,792.00
8	Volunteer Softball	Spring	Miscavage	Daniel	\$0.00
9	Asst. Track Coach Girls & Boys-HS	Spring	Giovagnoli	Heather	\$3,991.00

EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACTS
MARCH 23, 2015

**2015-2016
SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Draft 2.19.15

Aug 25th	T	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 26th	W	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 27th	Th	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 28th	F	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Aug 31st	M	First Day of School for Students
Sept 4th	F	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Sept 7th	M	Labor Day (school closed)
Sept 23rd	W	Staff In-Service K-12
Oct 12th	M	Staff In-Service K-12
Nov 3rd	T	Staff In-Service K-12
Nov 23rd	M	Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 24th	T	Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 25th	W	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Nov 26th	TH	Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Nov 27th	F	Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Dec 24th	TH	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 25th	F	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 28th	M	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 29th	T	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 30th	W	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 31st	TH	Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 1st	F	Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 18th	M	Martin Luther King Day (school closed)
Feb 12th	F	K-6 Conferences / 7-12 In-Service
Feb 15th	M	President's Day (school closed)
Mar 23rd	W	Spring Break (school closed)
Mar 24th	TH	Spring Break (school closed)
Mar 25th	F	Spring Break (school closed)
Mar 28th	M	Spring Break (school closed)
Apr 26th	T	Staff In-Service K-12
May 30th	M	Memorial Day (school closed)
June 16th	TH	Tentative Last Day for Students
June 17th	F	Tentative Last Day for Teachers



Legend

No School for Students	
Staff In-Service days	
Add'l Emergency Days	

The 2015-2016 calendar has 3 emergency days built into it in the event of school cancellations. If additional days are needed, the following days will be converted into student/teacher school days: November 23, November 24, February 15, March 23, March 24 and/or March 28.

The calendar will be revised as needed throughout the school year by the Board to reflect 180 student days and 191 teacher days.

	Student Days		Teacher Days	12 month
	Elem	Second		
Aug	1	1	4	23 Jul
Sept	19	19	20	21 Aug
Oct	21	21	22	22 Sep
Nov	15	15	18	22 Oct
Dec	17	17	17	21 Nov
Jan	19	19	19	23 Dec
Feb	19	19	20	21 Jan
Mar	19	19	19	21 Feb
Apr	20	20	21	23 Mar
May	21	21	21	21 Apr
June	12	12	13	22 May
	183	183	194	22 Jun
				262

7/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

8/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

9/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

10/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

11/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

12/15

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

2/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

3/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

4/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

5/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

6/16

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn Roche
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark P. Dehnert
Board President

Thomas J. DiBello
Board Vice President

Joseph P. Cirese
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Willard D. Cromley
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Region II

Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

RESOLUTION 2015-05

RESOLUTION URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUNDING FORMULA FOR BASIC EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's more than 1.8 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and

WHEREAS, the state's contribution in funding public education as a percentage of basic instructional expenses has declined from over 50% during the mid 1970's, to less than 35% today; and, on average, other states contribute 44% of total education funding, with Pennsylvania ranking 42 among the 50 states in the amount of state subsidies allocated to support elementary and secondary education and ranks 8th in reliance on local taxes; and

WHEREAS, as the state's share of K-12 education funding decreases while the number of state and federal mandates for public schools steadily increases each year, additional burden is placed on local taxpayers to make up the difference to ensure that our students' education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, basic education funding has been distributed without the benefit of a funding formula, with the lack of a reliable, fair and transparent funding formula resulting in great disparities in how state education funds are distributed to school districts; and

WHEREAS, these inequities effectively harm the ability of school districts to adequately and fairly provide the resources for the different needs of their students, especially those in poverty, those with disabilities, English language learners and other students; and

WHEREAS, the Spring-Ford Area School District supports the development of a system of public school financing that addresses the needs of school districts and students, and establishes a school funding formula that is equitable, adequate, comprehensive and consistent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District urges the General Assembly to reinvest its interest in the support of public schools by taking legislative action to establish a formula that is predictable and addresses adequacy and equity for all school districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District will encourage others, including parents, students and district taxpayers, to contact the Pennsylvania General Assembly to convey the importance of establishing a fair and equitable public school funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Spring-Ford Area School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted this 23RD day of March, 2015

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President

(seal)